

OFFICE OF AUDITS & ADVISORY SERVICES



AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) COMPLIANCE AUDIT OF THE IMMUNIZATION LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

FINAL AUDIT REPORT

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TO: Wilma J. Wooten, Public Health Officer
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FROM: James L. Pelletier
Chief of Audits

FINAL REPORT: AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT COMPLIANCE AUDIT OF THE IMMUNIZATION LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

Enclosed is our report on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Compliance Audit of the Immunization Local Assistance Grant. As there are no findings and recommendations in the report, no audit response is required.

Thank you for the courteousness and cooperation extended to the Office of Audits & Advisory Services during the course of the audit.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (858) 495-5661.

JAMES L. PELLETIER
Chief of Audits

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Enclosure

- c: Nick N. Macchione, Director, HHSA
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Terry Hogan, Chief Operations Officer, HHSA
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INTRODUCTION

Audit Objective As part of our effort to provide reasonable assurance that the County of San Diego (the County) is in compliance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA or the Act), the Office of Audits & Advisory Services (OAAS) conducted an audit of the Immunization Local Assistance Program subsidized with ARRA funds.

The objectives of the audit were to establish whether ARRA funds were properly managed and accounted for, determine whether data related to the grant were properly captured and reported as mandated by the Act, and determine whether adequate internal controls for the administration of ARRA funds had been established.

Background The Act was signed into law on February 17, 2009. The purposes of the Act are to preserve and create jobs, promote economic recovery, assist those most affected by the recession, provide investments to increase economic efficiency through technological advances in science and health, and invest in transportation, environmental protection, and other infrastructure.

The Act appropriated \$300 million to the Department of Health and Human Services for the support of Section 317 of the Immunization Program. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) was allocated approximately \$23.5 million of ARRA funds to enhance local immunization efforts and restore vital immunization services that were suspended following a reduction of State general funds in FY 2009-10.

In September 2009, the County Public Health Services Division (PHS) was awarded \$671,500 of ARRA funds to establish and maintain preventive health services programs to immunize individuals against vaccine-preventable disease.

Audit Scope & Limitations Audit work focused on grant activities conducted during FY 2009-10.

This audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards prescribed by the Institute of Internal Auditors, Inc., as required by California Government Code, Section 1236.

Methodology OAAS performed the audit using the following methods:

- Reviewed Office of Management and Budget (OMB) ARRA guidance, Office of Inspector General (OIG) ARRA directives, and State of California to identify and understand specific ARRA requirements and expectations;
- Examined Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports that discussed significant risks related to ARRA;

- Interviewed PHS staff responsible for grant fiscal administration and project management;
- Examined County policies and procedures governing the administration of grants;
- Reviewed processes for grant administration, monitoring, and reporting of grant activities; and
- Conducted specific audit procedures such as inspection of documents, reconciliation of records, verification of key transactions, and inquiries regarding fraud prevention controls.

AUDIT RESULTS

Summary

OAAS' audit work determined that, within the scope of our audit, there is reasonable assurance that PHS is generally in compliance with ARRA grant requirements.

COMMENDATION

The Office of Audits & Advisory Services commends and sincerely appreciates the courteousness and cooperation extended by the officers and staff of the County Public Health Services Division throughout this audit.

Office of Audits & Advisory Services

Compliance **R**eliability **E**ffectiveness **A**ccountability **T**ransparency **E**fficiency

VALUE